# Musical Topics

Edited by Mrs. K. L. Skahen

Raff's career was one of the most romantic and at times one of the most pathetic in musical history. He was born May 27, 1822, at Lachen, Switzgrland. He was educated at a Jesuit and mathematics. Immensely fond of music, he was unable to afford a teacher. He became a school teacher and studied music with the greatest of teachers "oneself." Mendelssohn became interested in him and induced a publisher to issue some of his compositions. From that time to his death he wrote incessantly, often producing works which were so trivial that their value was purely ephemeral. Liszt, von Bulow and others who saw in Raff a great genius drifting in any direction the winds might blow induced him to further and more regular study. Meanwhile he was often close to starvation and ready to turn out any kind of cheap pot boiler to keep himself alive.

Liszt, whose great heart and breadth of sympathy made him a god friend to many musicians in need induced Raff to take up his home in Weimar, where Raff's opera, King Alfred, was produced many times

main. His pianoforte Concerto was once very popular, but is rarely heard at this time. LaFileuse and the Polka de la Reine, however, are probably his best known works for piano. His songs are rarely heard although he wrote many and his violin compositions, with the exception of an occasional performance of the Suite for Violin and Orchestra and the immortant and the immortant and the satisfactory of the scates.

In 1877, Raff was appointed director of the very fine Hoch Conservatorium in Frankfort am Main, an endowed institution, which has done much for music. There among his many noted pupils he had Edward MacDowell in whom he took a great personal interest. Raff died on June 25, 1882. His life is a singular monuted in the produced him to further and more regular study.

Fighting To Get a Start.

The following bits taken from the lives of some illustrious French mas-

god friend to many musicians in need induced Raff to take up his home in Weimar, where Raff's opera, King Alfred, was produced many times with great success, but with little profit to Raff. In 1856, however, he want to Wiesbaden, where his fortunes turned as he had many piano pupils. In 1859 he married the daughter of a famous actor. Encouraged by prosperity he wrote many highly interesting works for the orchestra including the symphonies, In the Woods, Lenore, The Alpine, In Summertime, Spring Sounds and In Autumn Time. In all Raff wrote 11 symphonies. None of these rank with the great symphonies of Beethoven, Schumann, Brahms or Tchaik. owsky, but they are exceedingly good and interesting music with occasional moments of lofty inspiration. His technical skill was often quite amazing as is shown in some of the first movements of his symphonies. He is at his best, however, in the slow movement which are often (like his famous Cavatina) exceedingly impassioned and filled with emotional charm.

As a composer for pianoforte Raff produced so many compositions that it is surprising that so very few re-

### STUDIES GERMAN CUSS WORDS | HAS WOODEN LEG; DRAFTED

Marine Fits Self to Be Able to Tell the Kaiser What He Thinks

Salt Lake City.-When the United States marines march into Berlin there is going to be one Salt Lake representative peculiarly fitted to tell one William Hohenzollern just what Zion thinks of him, for Covendish W. Cannon of this city has enlisted in the Marine corps. For several months prior to his enlistment Cannon was studying German, but he insisted that his teacher school him in only one branch of the German

"I want to learn how to cuss fluently in German," said Cannon, when questioned concerning his peculiar studies, "so that I can tell Kaiser Bill and the rest of the gang just what I think of them. If I didn't know all the words in the German 'cuss dictionary,' how could I do it?"

Shell Shock Victim Honored. Spokane, Wash.-Edward Haynes of

This city, has been recommended to receive the distinguished service order medal of the British army. Haynes, a machine gunner in the Royal British marines at Cambral, last winter took part in the defense against the German drive. He recently returned here suffering from shell shock. While crossing the Atlantic on his way home, the liner was torpedoed and he spent three and one-half days in an open boat before being rescued.

He Is Taken Before Army Officers at Camp Dodge as a Slacker.

Des Molnes, Ia.-Sam Alanko, with a wooden leg, was sent to Camp Dedge as a draft evader from Fort Snel-

When he was called up before the Camp Dodge officers he limped considerably.

"What's the matter with you?" he was asked.

"I've got a wooden leg," he replied It was found that Alanko's left leg had been amputated above the knee and he was equipped with an artificial

"What did you come down here for?" the officer asked. "It beats me," Alanko replied,

guess they want me." FAILS TO REMOVE HIS HAT

Manager Knocks Down Employee and Then Hands Him "Blue Envelope."

Miami, Okla.-Because an employee of the Riverside park here would not take off his hat when the band played "The Star-Spangled Banner," Manager A. H. De Vaux knocked the offending lid off the man's head, after he had asked him three times to remove it. As the man stooped over to pick up the hat, Mr. De Vaux gave him a right uppercut to the jaw and he took the count. He also received a "blue

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#### **BRING OUT YOUR WEAPON**

By MELVILLE DAVISSON

That appalling damnationtelligence without humanity— converting a whole people into a prodatory monster has de-seended on the world.

No human institution, fine or noble, is any longer safe. Inva-sions from a malignant star or labled beach breaking up through the cruet of the certi-sould not more anafolity threaten in. Henry energy of every chi-land unifor must be accompled for resistance.

HELP THE WORLD TO CLEAN HOUSE

By JAMES MONTGOMERY FLAGE Now comes the Fourth Liberty Privilege! The fourth opportunity to Americans to hit a goshalmity blow at the Huns! The scourge of the world -the flendish and soulless and mighty machine of evil-that, although most of the nations of the earth are battling against, is still going strong!

It is so powerful that it will take the united strength of all the "white" peoples to crush it.

The biggest and heaviest factor will be the United States of America. We are called by other nations a race of bluffers, blowhards, money grabbers— so we are! We bluffed at the beginning. But though we bragged and have always left modesty to others, we are now making good our boastswe are proving that when we said we could do certain things we were merely telling the truth. We have threatened mighty things and now we are calmly doing those mighty things. We may not be as modest as 100,000,000 violets, but when we are hot under the neckband we can deliver "some" heavy

We are money grabbers. But how lucky for our allies that fact is! If It had not been for our money, Germany would have been victorious some time ago.

We are gradually, steadily, relentlessly expanding our might.

We are a red, white and blue glacier, that will finally suffocate Prussianism.

The wealthy have not needed ex hypocrisy, of sloth. hortation, argument, persuasion to in-

kill off its dwellers

a decent house forever.

-as it will if not stamped out.

We are not pikers-no one can ever say that of us. We are not asleep! rifice. Our soldiers, sailors and marines buy Liberty bonds by the millions, men whe have offered their all to the great and holy cause! None of us have to be shamed by them into doing our least! When the window opens where they sell the Fourth Loan of Bonds be there in line. Your bonds are reserved sents to the great spectacle of "Final Victo be announced later!

ROOKIE GETS HIS INTERVAL

It Lasts Fifteen Minutes and Is Taken Up Most With Conversation.

Camp Wadsworth, Spartanburg, S. C .- A bunch of new draft men were | side the "mothers of the world," then, sergeant who occasionally sung out sharply: "Keep your intervals"—this being a military term used in keeping the squads at the proper distance from great United States have the chance

One of the rookles complained to the captain: "Say, Cap, the guy that brung us over here told us to keep our intervals. They haint gimme one

"Is that so!" mused the officer, thoughtfully. "Well, when you get through medical examination tell the personnel officers about it. You must have an interval, by all means. Try to make them give you one before

When the rookie demanded savage-ly later that Captain Coffin, person-nel officer, issue him an interval the captain gave him one of fifteen min-utes, taken up with very earnest con-



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eres and Teach Hood of

American wives, over bore, smaller their leved boy-men, so levely, cheerfully—it's up to us, just the cogood, too! There is no discomfact to great to bear, no service that con't be asked of us, no sacrifice that we will not make. It is our right to be allowed our share in this world war.

Our boys have gone over there, bearing in their eager youths' faces and in their stout American fighting hearts, America's promise to those poor warwearied peoples. It is a promise that you and I and every man, woman and child in America must stand back of with all our hearts and . . with all our worldly goods. There is not a human American today who is not fired with a passion of patriotism, with the keenest desire to serve-for the chance to prove his right to look those boys in the face when they get back. Just the contempt we have for the slacker, the profiteer of today-just that contempt will we have for ourselves, of tomorrow, if, in our souls we can find one chance to serve overlooked or one sacrifice not made. For, remember that our boys in that one moment of supreme selflessness-that "going over the top"-that second of conscious immolation on the alter of freedom, victory and peace-that willing surrender of their blood and body and brain-for just you and me-for our peace and safety-in that one moment has come a spiritual rebirth, a rejuvenation of soul, that will search our souls for kindred strength, and be spiritually intolerant of weakness, of

So for all of us comes the searching vest in Liberty bonds—they quietly and of what we may do now—how to preimmediately take all they can get- pare for that time when our boys they know what's what in investments come back, bearing along with their -that's why they are wealthy, Enough scars of war, that triumph of warfreedom for all men and future peace The world is cleaning house. Its for all peoples. Even yet, not all of house is alive with crawling Teutonic us can take an active part in direct vermin-vermin that if not destroyed war works. But there are two ways will make the house uninhabitable and in which all can share and in which You are not asked to set the traps— adjusted the worlds of business, of use the clubs, spray the powder—but finance, of industry to war, so we you are asked to pay for those traps, women can readjust our little indiclubs and powder, so that others may vidual domestic lives to war. Even wield these wenpons for you, so that the homely tasks of cooking, washing, you and your family and your family's bedmaking, sending the children to families, your loved ones may live in school, directing the family amusement-even these can be directly re-Your house is the United States, lated to the war necessity of keeping the vermin is Germany. We will not the nation's health, balance and spirit allow the vermin to overrun our house adjusted, all in readiness for the day when our country may call on usjust you and me-for the supreme sac-

Keep Thrift Wheel Spinning.

Then, we women must put our shoulder to the thrift wheel and keep it spinning merrily. We can save-and in this our bables can help-save pennies, save useless and some useful expenditures, save service, save food, save the other fellow's time-and always with a cheerful heart, a smiling front, the courage of devotion. If by saving and at a sacrifice, a dollar for a Liberty bond, 25 cents for a Thrift stamp, an hour a day for serious thought on how we, individually, can adjust our every daily act to war-if, by these little things, we can do a patriot's part in this war, if we can have the right to put our names alongmarching across camp in charge of a in God's name, not only do them, but see that every other woman goes and does likewise. Let every man, every woman, every child in these to share in the glory of America's part in this war-to own a vital piece of that immortal liberty, the right of one's own soul that America has always fought for and stands for immortally now and forever, world with-

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